

House File 2562 - Introduced

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BY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2154)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to child sexual abuse and child sexual assault
2 awareness and prevention.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.9, subsection 46, paragraph a, Code
2 2020, is amended to read as follows:
3 a. Develop and make available to school districts, examples
4 of age-appropriate and research-based materials and lists
5 of resources which parents may use to teach their children
6 to recognize unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances,
7 to not make unwanted physical and verbal sexual advances,
8 to effectively reject unwanted sexual advances, that it is
9 wrong to take advantage of or exploit another person, about
10 the dangers of sexual exploitation by means of the internet
11 including specific strategies to help students protect
12 themselves and their personally identifiable information
13 from such exploitation, and about counseling, medical, and
14 legal resources available to survivors of sexual abuse and
15 sexual assault, including resources for escaping violent
16 relationships. The materials and resources shall cover verbal,
17 physical, and visual sexual harassment, including nonconsensual
18 sexual advances, and nonconsensual physical sexual contact
19 and shall also cover child sexual abuse and child sexual
20 assault awareness and prevention. In developing the materials
21 and resource list, the director shall consult with entities
22 that shall include but not be limited to the departments of
23 human services, public health, and public safety, education
24 stakeholders, and parent-teacher organizations. School
25 districts shall provide age-appropriate and research-based
26 materials and a list of available community and internet-based
27 resources to parents at registration and shall also include
28 the age-appropriate and research-based materials and resource
29 list in the student handbook. School districts are encouraged
30 to work with their communities to provide voluntary parent
31 education sessions to provide parents with the skills and
32 appropriate strategies to teach their children as described
33 in [this subsection](#). School districts shall incorporate the
34 age-appropriate and research-based materials into relevant
35 curricula and shall reinforce the importance of preventive

1 measures when reasonable with parents and students.

2 Sec. 2. Section 256.9, subsection 46, Code 2020, is amended
3 by adding the following new paragraph:

4 NEW PARAGRAPH. *c.* Provide a resource list to school
5 districts of national, state, or local nonprofit organizations
6 which provide free or low-cost research-based child sexual
7 abuse and child sexual assault awareness and prevention
8 programs for children prekindergarten through grade twelve.
9 A school district may partner with a nonprofit organization
10 with expertise in child sexual abuse and child sexual assault
11 awareness and prevention to meet the requirements of paragraph
12 *"a"*.

13 Sec. 3. Section 272.2, Code 2020, is amended by adding the
14 following new subsection:

15 NEW SUBSECTION. 23. Adopt rules establishing continuing
16 education requirements for renewal of a license, certificate,
17 statement of professional recognition, or authorization.
18 Continuing education activities may include but are not limited
19 to participating in or presenting at in-service training
20 programs on child sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and
21 prevention.

22 Sec. 4. Section 279.50, subsection 2, Code 2020, is amended
23 to read as follows:

24 2. Each school board shall provide age-appropriate and
25 research-based instruction in human growth and development,
26 unless a pupil's parent or guardian has requested the pupil
27 be excused from such instruction as provided in subsection 5,
28 including instruction regarding human the following:

29 a. Human sexuality, self-esteem, stress management,
30 interpersonal relationships, domestic abuse, HPV and the
31 availability of a vaccine to prevent HPV, and acquired immune
32 deficiency syndrome as required in [section 256.11](#), in grades
33 one through twelve.

34 b. Child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness
35 and prevention in kindergarten through grade twelve, and in

1 prekindergarten if the school district offers a prekindergarten
2 program. A school board may collaborate with nonprofit
3 organizations with expertise in child sexual abuse and
4 child sexual assault awareness and prevention and may rely
5 on available internet-based child sexual abuse and child
6 sexual assault awareness and prevention programs to meet the
7 requirements of this paragraph.

8 Sec. 5. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
9 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
10 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
11 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
12 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
13 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
14 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
15 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
16 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
17 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school
18 districts.

EXPLANATION

20 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
21 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

22 This bill relates to child sexual abuse and sexual assault
23 awareness and prevention by providing that continuing education
24 activities authorized by the board of educational examiners
25 for purposes of renewing a license, certificate, statement
26 of professional recognition, or authorization may include
27 participating in or presenting at in-service training programs
28 on child sexual abuse and child sexual assault awareness
29 and prevention. The bill also requires school boards to
30 provide, unless a pupil's parent or guardian has requested the
31 pupil be excused from such instruction, age-appropriate and
32 research-based instruction in child sexual abuse and child
33 sexual assault awareness and prevention as part of the human
34 growth and development instruction in kindergarten through
35 grade 12, and in prekindergarten if a school district offers a

1 prekindergarten program. A school board may collaborate with
2 nonprofit organizations with expertise in child sexual abuse
3 and sexual assault awareness and prevention and may rely on
4 available internet-based programs to meet the requirements.

5 Currently, the director of the department of education has a
6 duty to develop and make available to school districts examples
7 of age-appropriate and research-based materials. The bill
8 specifies that the age-appropriate and research-based materials
9 and resources shall also cover child sexual abuse and child
10 sexual assault awareness and prevention. The director shall
11 provide a resource list to school districts of organizations
12 which provide free or low-cost research-based child sexual
13 abuse and child sexual assault awareness and prevention
14 programs.

15 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
16 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of
17 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
18 district from state school foundation aid received by the
19 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
20 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate
21 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The
22 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the
23 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state
24 mandates included in the bill.